

# Ysgol Bro Gwaun



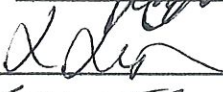



## Young Carers Policy

Approved – Governor's Committee February 2018

Review every 3 years

Next Review: February 2021

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|----------------|---|
| <b>Signed:</b> |   |
| Headteacher:   |  |
| Governor:      |  |
| Parent:        |  |
| Pupil:         |  |

## Introduction:

At Ysgol Bro Gwaun we are aware that pupils in our school may well have caring roles at home. Young Carers are children and young people under the age of 18 who provide care, support or assistance to a family member with care needs. The majority of Young Carers care for a parent, but the person with care needs may be a sibling, grandparent or any other family member. Young people aged 18-25 are identified as Young Adult Carers. We aim to understand the issues faced by Young Carers and to have procedures stating how we will support them. When a young person does look after someone in their family they may need a little extra support to help them get the most out of school. Bro Gwaun as a whole school is committed to meeting the needs of Young Carers so that they are enabled and encouraged to attend and enjoy school and have equal access to their education and all other opportunities, just as their peers. The school understands that Young Carers may have the additional burden of caring responsibilities. Our school will aim to offer support to Young Carers to improve their attendance and wellbeing.

## Identification:

Ysgol Bro Gwaun uses various methods to identify Young Carers.

- During year 6 Transition meetings the Assistant Head Teacher and ALNCo will seek to identify whether a parent (or another family member) have long-term physical, mental or emotional needs, and whether the child helps to look after them. This sensitive information will be transferred from the primary schools to Ysgol Bro Gwaun.
- Year Progress Managers and Form Tutors will seek to identify Young Carers through observations on a daily basis.
- Ysgol Bro Gwaun will have a dedicated display board in the main corridor showing relevant posters signposting to the support available.
- A photo of the Link Teacher for the Young Carers will also displayed in the main corridor.
- Our school will hold regular awareness raising sessions e.g. assembly presentations.

- Literature on support groups and agencies that support Young Carers will be available in specific locations in the school e.g. pupils' library, staffroom and Hlafan. Literature will also be displayed in the reception / waiting area for parents.
- Various year groups will complete a Young Carers questionnaire.
- The Link Teacher will meet with Pembrokeshire Support Staff to further identify Young Carers and to transfer information.
- Pupils who are identified as Young Carers will have any additional needs met as appropriate.

#### Referral / Signposting:

- Staff will be informed of any Young Carers and how their needs are best accommodated.
- The need for practical additional support will be e-mailed to staff as constant reminders.
- Young Carers will be signposted to other agencies and professionals, as appropriate.
- Young Carers will have the opportunity to be referred to the Pembrokeshire Support Group, with their parents/carers' permission.

#### Support and Information:

- A Link Teacher will be identified for Bro Gwaun Young Carers, and this person will have responsibility for Young Carers. Pupils will be made aware of their Link Teacher.
- Staff will be encouraged to complete the Training on Young Carer Aware (e-learning).
- IDP, or Pupils' Pen Portraits will recognise the pupils' needs as a Young Carer, and will take into consideration the support they ask for.
- Bro Gwaun will evaluate data effectively to monitor the academic progress made by Young carers.
- Bro Gwaun will also evaluate the wellbeing of Young Carers through relevant pupil-voice questionnaires.

- The school will recognise that some Young Carers and their families need to receive co-ordinated support by the school, working in partnership with the school nurse, school counsellor and other internal or external agencies.
- Ysgol Bro Gwaun at all times will be accessible and welcoming to parents with disability, offering additional support to enable parents to attend parents evenings and open evenings. School will always consider home visits as an alternative when needed.
- The school will consider alternatives if a Young Carer is unable to complete homework by the given date, or unable to buy cooking ingredients, or unable to attend out of school activities. Reasonable adjustments, organised by the Link Teacher, will be put into place.
- Ysgol Bro Gwaun will allow Young Carers to use a telephone to contact home, to reduce worries during the school day.
- The Link Teacher will negotiate work deadlines for Young Carers.
- The school will offer support to the young person and their family during all transition process e.g. sharing information with a college support link.
- Bro Gwaun Young Carers will have the opportunity to join, and share, in the Young Carers group based in school.
- Our Young Carers will have the opportunity to also join, where appropriate, in the external activities offered by Pembrokeshire Support Group.
- Ysgol Bro Gwaun will work with Young Carers and take a holistic approach to support all needs.

Review and Refine :

Ysgol Bro Gwaun will actively seek feedback and ideas from Young Carers, and their families where appropriate, in order to improve provision.

This protocol will be reviewed annually, in April, in Consultation with the relevant members of staff, the Link Governor for Young Carers, and any agreed recommendations will be amended by the Link Teacher.

Signed .....*R. Lewis*..... Date *March 2017*  
 (Link Teacher for Young Carers)